

Amendments to the Claims

1. (cancelled)
2. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim 10, wherein the guiding sleeve is made of a rigid material.
3. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim 10, wherein the guiding sleeve includes at least one curved section.
4. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim 10, further comprising a navigation element fixed to the guiding sleeve, the navigation element having markers specifically designed to be trackable by a navigation system.
5. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim 10, further comprising a sliding element connected to a navigation element, said sliding element slidably engaging the guiding sleeve.
6. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim 10, wherein one end of the guiding sleeve includes an end area which tapers conically outward or inward.
7. (previously presented) The system as set forth in claim 6, wherein the guiding sleeve includes a rotational block at the conically tapered end area.
8. (currently amended) The system as set forth in claim 10, wherein the connecting element of the holding element comprises an outer thread.
9. (previously presented) The system as set forth in claim 8, wherein the holding element includes a flexible area which can be guided in the guiding sleeve.
10. (previously presented) A system for positioning an implant, said system comprising:

a holding element for holding an implant, said holding element including:
a first end having a grip,
a second end having a connecting element for establishing a connection to the implant, and
an elongated intermediate portion extending between the first and second ends; and
a guiding sleeve for guiding the holding element, said guiding sleeve having an entry opening and an exit opening, and defining a guiding area between the openings for guiding the elongated intermediate portion of the holding element,
wherein the holding element is removably introduceable into the guiding sleeve,
wherein the holding element is configured to be translated within the guiding sleeve,
wherein a tensioning device is provided proximate the first end, the tensioning device being configured to move axially the holding element after an implant has been connected to the second end of the holding element so as to move the implant into abutment with an adjacent end of the guiding sleeve and place the elongated intermediate portion under tension; and
wherein the tensioning device includes a nut that is screwed onto the holding element, which nut is operable to engage an adjacent end of the guiding sleeve opposite the end that is engaged by the implant.

11. (previously presented) The system as set forth in claim 8, further comprising the implant that includes a connecting element for establishing a connection to the connecting element of the holding element.

12. (original) The system as set forth in claim 11, wherein the connecting element of the implant is an inner thread.

13. (previously presented) The system as set forth in claim 11, wherein the implant includes a conically tapered section adjacent the connecting element.

14 - 28 (cancelled).